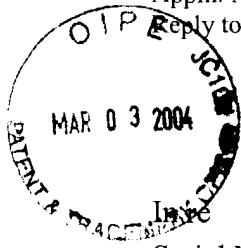


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MAR 08 2004

Appln. No.: 09/832,424

Reply to Office Action dated August 29, 2003



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent application of Carlo M. Croce et al. : Conf. no. 9552  
Serial No.: 09/832,424 :  
Filed: April 11, 2001 : Group Art Unit: 1632  
For: MUIR-TORRE-LIKE SYNDROME IN : Examiner:  
FHIT DEFICIENT MICE : Michael C. Wilson

**Response Accompanying a Request for Continued Examination**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action dated August 29, 2003. A Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") is submitted herewith, along with a petition for a three-month extension of time for responding to the pending office action, extending the response deadline to March 1, 2004 (February 29, 2004 being a Sunday). A check for \$860.00 is included to cover the RCE fee and the fee for the extension of time. No further fee is believed due for the filing of this paper. However, if a further fee is due, kindly charge deposit account 50-0573. Please credit any excess to the same account.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on pg. 2 of this paper

**Remarks/Argument** begin on pg. 5 of this paper.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below, with sufficient postage, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

BY Karen M. Spina

KAREN M. SPINA

DATE: March 1, 2004

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